

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 212547

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY (IN DRAFT)

P - MR. SISCO

S/S-O:DL MACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 212547

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AG, ME

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE

REF : ALGIERS 1962

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. PLEASE DELIVER ORAL MESSAGE FROM ME FOR PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: NOW THAT THE SECOND AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL ON THE SINAI HAS BEEN CONCLUDED, I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU MY THOUGHTS ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT AS ANOTHER STEP IN THE CONTINUING PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TOWARD AN ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT. I HAD A FULL DISCUSSION ON THIS MATTER WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTEFLIKA ON FRIDAY, WHICH I ASSUME HE HAS REPORTED TO YOU. THE PRINCIPAL POINT I MADE TO HIM WAS THAT I BELIEVE WE HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH IN ACHIEVING THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 212547

RECENT AGREEMENT WHICH CREATES POSITIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR

THE FUTURE.

3. AS YOU KNOW FROM OUR LONG CONVERSATIONS, THE PHILOSOPHY

OF THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH RESTED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN STEADY PROGRESS THROUGH A SERIES OF INTERIM AGREEMENTS TOWARD AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT. THE HOPE HAS BEEN THAT EACH AGREEMENT WOULD FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE FRAMEWORK OF NEGOTIATIONS SO THAT SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENTS COULD BE WORKED OUT ON A BASIS OF INCREASED CONFIDENCE BETWEEN THE PARTIES.

4. THE US HAS COMMITTED ITSELF TO PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THIS PROCESS BECAUSE IT APPEARS THAT WE ARE THE ONLY ONES IN A POSITION TO ASSIST THE PARTIES IN KEEPING THIS NEGOTIATING PROCESS IN MOTION. AS YOU KNOW, I HAVE NEVER PROMISED RESULTS BEYOND WHAT I FELT THE POLITICAL SITUATION ON ALL SIDES WOULD PERMIT. I HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT TIME AND PATIENCE WOULD BE REQUIRED AS WE MOVE CAREFULLY TOWARD THE GOAL WE ALL SEEK. NOW IN THE WAKE OF THE RECENT EGYPT-ISRAEL AGREEMENT, A SITUATION EXISTS WHERE THE IMPORTANT GOVERNMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WILL HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE BETWEEN SHOWING CONTINUED PATIENCE WITH THIS PROCESS IN ORDER TO LEAVE INTACT THE FOUNDATION FOR FURTHER PROGRESS AND, ON THE OTHER HAND, ATTACKING US AND THE PROCESS WHICH WE ARE TRYING TO ADVANCE. IF A NUMBER OF ARAB GOVERNMENTS DECIDE TO CONCERT IN ATTACK AGAINST THIS APPROACH AND AGAINST OUR ROLE IN IT, THIS WOULD HAVE THE MOST SERIOUS CONSEQUENCE BECAUSE, AS FAR AS WE CAN SEE, THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO THE COURSE WE HAVE PROPOSED THAT HAS A REALISTIC CHANCE OF PRODUCING RESULTS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

5. I HAVE TOLD PRESIDENT ASAD THAT WE WOULD EXPEND AS MUCH EFFORT AS WE HAVE IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT AGREEMENT TO HELP ACHIEVE PROGRESS ON THE SYRIAN FRONT, AND I HAVE ASSURED HIM THAT THE US HAS NO INTENTION OF ATTEMPTING TO DIVIDE THE ARAB WORLD. TO THE CONTRARY, AS THE PRESIDENT AND I HAVE SAID ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT A LASTING PEACE IN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 212547

THE MIDDLE EAST MUST INVOLVE PROGRESS ON ALL FRONTS AND MUST BE BASED ON CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE INTERESTS OF ALL PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS.

6. YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A REALIST, MR. PRESIDENT, AND I HAVE WRITTEN AT THIS TIME TO SHARE WITH YOU OUR VIEW OF THE CURRENT SITUATION, AND TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT OUR APPROACH WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE YOUR SYMPATHETIC UNDER-

STANDING. KISSINGER

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